

have a lien against the contents of the container or trailer under section 5905 in the amount of the bond, fine, penalty, or cost (including storage), or interest and all court costs and legal fees incurred by the carrier as a result of such inaccurate transfer or failure."

(d) **LIABILITY.**—Section 5902 is amended by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e), and by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

"(d) **LIABILITY TO OWNER OR BENEFICIAL OWNER.**—If—

"(1) a person inaccurately transfers information on a certification required by subsection (b)(1), or fails to forward a certification to the subsequent carrier;

"(2) as a result of the inaccurate transfer of such information or a failure to forward a certification, the subsequent carrier incurs a bond, fine, penalty, or cost (including storage), or interest; and

"(3) that subsequent carrier exercises its rights to a lien under section 5905,

then that person is liable to the owner or beneficial owner, or to any other person paying the amount of the lien to the subsequent carrier, for the amount of the lien and all costs related to the imposition of the lien, including court costs and legal fees incurred in connection with it."

(e) **NONAPPLICATION.**—Subsection (e) of section 5902, as redesignated, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and

(2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as redesignated, the following:

"(1) The notification and certification requirements of subsections (a) and (b) of this section do not apply to any intermodal container or trailer containing consolidated shipments loaded by a motor carrier if that motor carrier—

"(A) performs the highway portion of the intermodal movement; or

"(B) assumes the responsibility for any weight-related fine or penalty incurred by any other motor carrier that performs a part of the highway transportation."

SEC. 205. PROHIBITIONS.

Section 5903 (relating to prohibitions) is amended—

(1) by inserting after "person" a comma and the following: "To whom section 5902(b) applies,";

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

"(b) **TRANSPORTING PRIOR TO RECEIVING CERTIFICATION.**—

"(1) **PRESUMPTION.**—If no certification is received by a motor carrier before or when a loaded intermodal container or trailer is tendered to it, the motor carrier may presume that the gross cargo weight of the container or trailer is less than 29,001 pounds.

"(2) **COPY OF CERTIFICATION NOT REQUIRED TO ACCOMPANY CONTAINER OR TRAILER.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the contrary, a copy of the certification required by section 5902(b) is not required to accompany the intermodal container or trailer.";

(3) by striking "10,000 pounds (including packing materials and pallets)" in subsection (c)(1) and inserting "29,000 pounds"; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

"(d) **NOTICE TO LEASED OPERATORS.**—

"(1) **IN GENERAL.**—If a motor carrier knows that the gross cargo weight of an intermodal container or trailer subject to the certification requirements of section 5902(b) would result in a violation of applicable State gross vehicle weight laws, then—

"(A) the motor carrier shall give notice to the operator of a vehicle which is leased by the vehicle operator to a motor carrier that

transports an intermodal container or trailer of the gross cargo weight of the container or trailer as certified to the motor carrier under section 5902(b);

"(B) the notice shall be provided to the operator prior to the operator being tendered the container or trailer;

"(C) the notice required by this subsection shall be in writing, but may be transmitted electronically; and

"(D) the motor carrier shall bear the burden of proof to establish that it tendered the required notice to the operator.

"(2) **REIMBURSEMENT.**—If the operator of a leased vehicle transporting a container or trailer subject to this chapter is fined because of a violation of a State's gross vehicle weight laws or regulations and the lessee motor carrier cannot establish that it tendered to the operator the notice required by paragraph (1) of this subsection, then the operator shall be entitled to reimbursement from the motor carrier in the amount of any fine and court costs resulting from the failure of the motor carrier to tender the notice to the operator."

SEC. 206. LIENS.

Section 5905 (relating to liens) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

"(a) **GENERAL.**—If a person involved in the intermodal transportation of a loaded container or trailer for which a certification is required by section 5902(b) of this title is required, because of a violation of a State's gross vehicle weight laws or regulations, to post a bond or pay a fine, penalty, cost (including storage), or interest resulting from—

"(1) erroneous information provided by the certifying party in the certification to the first carrier in violation of section 4903(a) of this title;

"(2) the failure of the party required to provide the certification to the first carrier to provide it;

"(3) the failure of a person required under section 5902(c) to forward the certification to forward it; or

"(4) an error occurring in the transfer of information on the certification to another document under section 5902(b)(3) or (c), then the person posting the bond, or paying the fine, penalty, costs (including storage), or interest has a lien against the contents equal to the amount of the bond, fine, penalty, cost (including storage), or interest incurred, until the person receives a payment of that amount from the owner or beneficial owner of the contents, or from the person responsible for making or forwarding the certification, or transferring the information from the certification to another document.";

(2) by inserting a comma and "or the owner or beneficial owner of the contents," after "first carrier" in subsection 9(b)(1); and

(3) by striking "cost, or interest." in subsection (b)(1) and inserting "cost (including storage), or interest. The lien shall remain in effect until the lien holder has received payment for all costs and expenses described in subsection (a) of this section."

SEC. 207. PERISHABLE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.

Section 5906 (relating to perishable agricultural commodities) is amended by striking "Sections 5904(a)(2) and 5905 of this title do" and inserting "Section 5905 of this title does".

SEC. 208. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 5907 (relating to regulations and effective date) is amended to read as follows:

"§5907. Effective date

"This chapter shall take effect 180 days after the date of enactment of the Intermodal Safe Container Transportation Amendments Act of 1996."

(b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections for chapter 59 is amended by striking the item relating to section 5709 and inserting the following:

"§5907. Effective date".

SEC. 209. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 59 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

"§5908. Relationship to other laws

"Nothing in this chapter affects—

"(1) chapter 51 (relating to transportation of hazardous material) or the regulations promulgated under that chapter; or

"(2) any State highway weight or size law or regulation applicable to tractor-trailer combinations."

(b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of sections for such chapter is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

"5908. Relationship to other laws"

NOTICE OF HEARING

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. COHEN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Special Committee on Aging will hold a hearing on Tuesday, September 24, 1996, at 9 a.m., in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. The hearing will discuss Social Security reform.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, September 18, 1996, in closed/open session, to receive testimony on the report of the Downing Assessment Task Force on the bomb attack on Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia, and other issues related to United States policy in the Middle East.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 18, 1996, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this hearing is to consider S. 1920, a bill to amend the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, and for other purposes; and S. 1998, a bill to provide for expedited negotiations between the Secretary of the Interior and the villages of Chickaloon-Moose Creek Native Association, Inc., Ninilchik Native Association, Inc., Seldovia Native Association, Inc., Tyonek Native Corporation, and Knikatnu, Inc., regarding the conveyances of certain lands in Alaska under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to